Did Love or the Fear of Hell Drive You to Salvation?

When you heard the Word of the Gospel, which showed you the Lord Jesus as He truly is, were you drawn to the beauty of His character?

 Answer: Yes — Explanation: If you answered “Yes,” it means that you may have been genuinely touched by the beauty and perfection of the character of the Lord Jesus, as revealed in Scripture. This attraction is not based solely on what He has done for you, but especially on who He is in His essence—the way He lived in obedience to the Father.

He denied Himself, became a servant, and lived with a holy fear of God, manifested through complete obedience. Such sincere attraction to His way of being gives birth in the heart to love and desire to follow Him and live like Him. This inner movement can be a clear sign of genuine new birth.

Like love between people, true love is not born simply because someone loves us or does something special for us. A young man will not truly fall in love with a girl just because he finds out that she loves him. Genuine love arises when he sees something beautiful and admirable in her—a noble character, an inner beauty that sincerely attracts him.

Likewise, the sinful man who comes to God only for the promise of Heaven or out of fear of Hell, without feeling sincere admiration for the beauty of Christ's character and without the desire for a real closeness to Him, does not experience an authentic relationship. Salvation is not a simple transaction, but a relationship of love, in which the soul is drawn to the beauty of the Savior.

 Answer: No (wrong) — Explanation: If you answered "No," it means that until now, you have not been attracted to the beauty of Lord Jesus' character as revealed in His Word. True love for Christ springs from a personal and deep understanding of the inner beauty of His character.

Without being sincerely attracted, there can be no genuine love above all else—an essential condition for being considered worthy to be His bride and, implicitly, for experiencing the new birth.

This post is an excerpt from the booklet “Are You Truly Born Again? – Biblical Questionnaire”, which you can read in full, free of charge. More studies and resources for spiritual awakening are available at

https://www.unmodifiedword.com.